

King County DNRP Water Quality Index

STATION **456** WATER YEAR **2014**

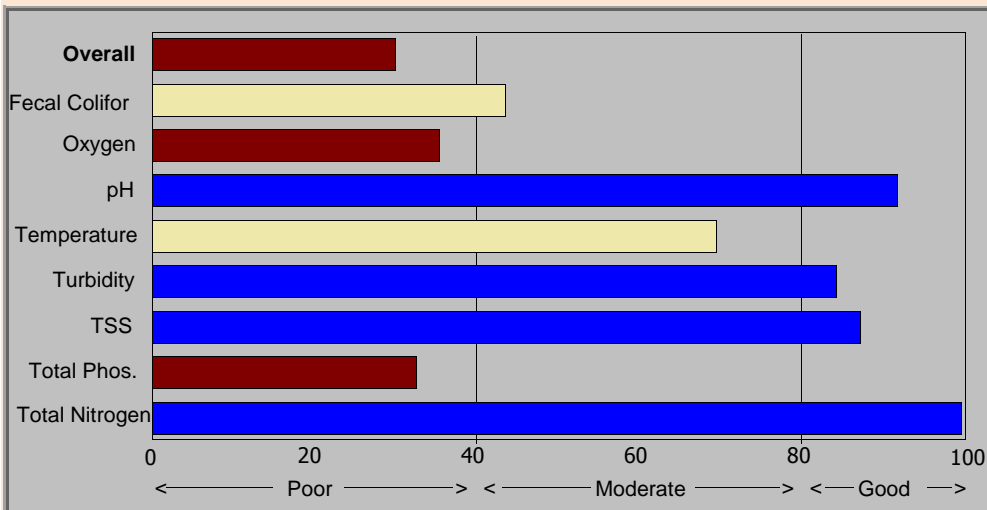
GAUGE # **20a** **Forbes Creek**

Overall Index **30**

King County monitors water quality in Forbes Creek at station 0456, which is located near the end of the pump access road on NW 106th Street. Sampling began in 1979 and continued until 2008 when budget cutbacks reduced King County's water quality monitoring program. However, regular sampling resumed in February 2013. Forbes Creek is short, running only 1.8 miles through the City of Kirkland and a wetland area before draining into the northeast corner of Lake Washington. Its basin contains approximately 1,000 acres of mixed residential landuse. A 29-year (1979 – 2007) trend analysis was conducted with baseflow data collected from Forbes Creek. This analysis showed some improvements in the water quality since 1979. Ortho-phosphorus, total nitrogen, nitrates, total suspended solids, and fecal coliform bacteria have all shown a significant decrease over this 29-year time period. However, stream temperatures and conductivity have increased, and dissolved oxygen concentrations have decreased significantly during the same time period.

Annual Water Quality Index Scores

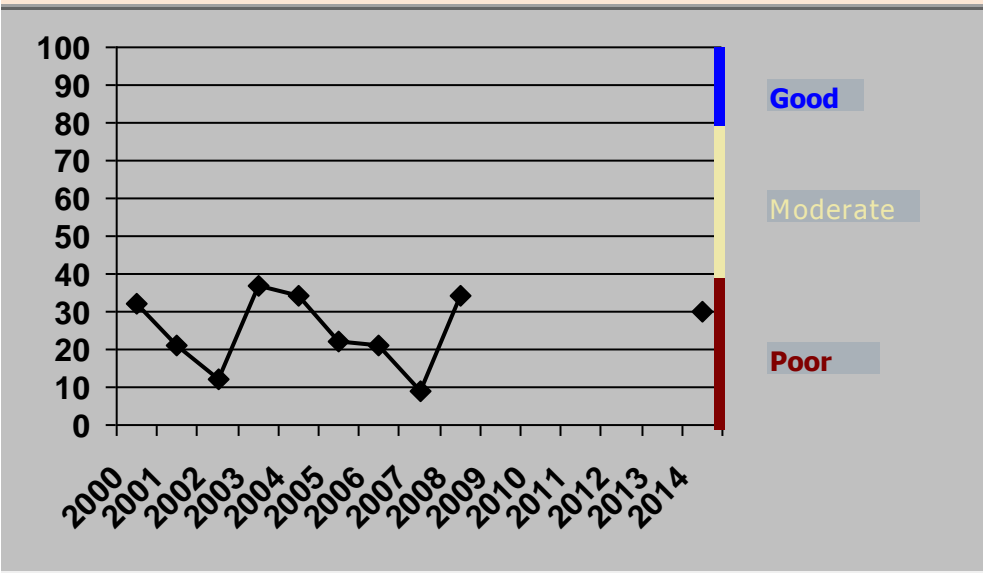
Water quality was POOR based on data collected 10/1/2013 to 9/30/2014.



Monthly Scores For Water Year 2014

Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
75	91	91	87	79	67	85	61	70	43	1	47

WQI Score Comparison By Water Year



About The Water Quality Index:

The Water Quality Index (WQI) score is a unit-less number ranging from 10 to 100: the higher the number, the higher the water quality. Scores are calculated from data collected during the monthly routine sampling. For temperature, pH, fecal coliform bacteria, turbidity, and dissolved oxygen, the index expresses results relative to levels required to maintain beneficial uses according to criteria in Washington's Water Quality Standards, WAC 173-201A. For nutrient and sediment measures where there are no standard, results are expressed relative to guidelines for this eco-region. Results from the eight parameters are aggregated over time to produce a single score for each sample station. In general, stations scoring 80 and above did not fail water quality standards or guidelines and are of "low concern", scores 40 to 80 indicate "moderate concern", and water quality at stations with scores below 40 are of "high concern". For more information about the WQI please visit <http://green.kingcounty.gov/WLR/Waterres/StreamsData/WQI.aspx>

For more information about this creek please visit our website at <http://green.kingcounty.gov/WLR/Waterres/StreamsData/streamlist.aspx>